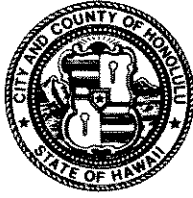


POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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MUFI HANNEMANN  
MAYOR



BOISSE P. CORREA  
CHIEF

PAUL D. PUTZULU  
KARL A. GODSEY  
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE TTN-LC

March 5, 2009

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CITY CLERK  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

The Honorable Todd K. Apo, Chair  
and Members  
Honolulu City Council  
530 South King Street, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Apo and Councilmembers:

Subject: Bill 4 (2009), Relating to the Use of Electronic Devices While Operating Motor Vehicles

I am Major Thomas Nitta of the Traffic Division, Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD strongly supports Bill 4 (2009), Relating to the Use of Electronic Devices While Operating Motor Vehicles. This bill addresses the safety issue of dividing the driver's attention while operating a motor vehicle with the use of electronic devices such as cellular phones, personal data assistants, video games, texting devices and the myriad uses of these devices.

The HPD feels that Bill 4 (2009) is a positive approach to the growing trend of society wanting to be connected or entertained. The safe operation of a motor vehicle is the primary duty of the driver, who should not to be distracted or have his attention divided by these devices. This is a safety issue for all users of our roadways, drivers, passengers, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

The intent of this bill does not prohibit the use of a hands free device, nor factory installed devices. This bill includes an exception for emergency responders utilizing such equipment within the scope of their duties, nor would the use of two-way radios in the course of an operator's duties be opposed.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Nitta", is written over a horizontal line.

THOMAS T. NITTA, Major  
Traffic Division

APPROVED:

APPROVED:

for: A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Boisse P. Correa", is written over a horizontal line.  
BOISSE P. CORREA  
Chief of Police

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kirk W. Caldwell", is written over a horizontal line.  
KIRK W. CALDWELL  
Managing Director

*Serving and Protecting With Aloha*

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